

REMARKS

Claims 11-14 and 19 have been withdrawn, claims 1-10 and 15-18 are now in the application.

The Examiner objected to the drawing because every feature in claim 10 was not included in the drawing. Figure 4 has been added to the drawing. Figure 4 shows numerals 30 for outside measurement and numerals 31 for inside measurement. The last paragraph on page 6 has been amended to differentiate between the numerals for inside measurement and the numerals for outside measurement. The drawings were also objected to because the focused light in claim 9 was so small that it was hard to notice. This light is now enlarged on the drawing. The marked up drawing has a circle around the enlarged light thereon.

In paragraph 8 the Examiner objected to the specification. The specification has been changed wherein the gripping pads are renumbered --56-- and wherein the opening is renumbered --54--.

In paragraph 9 the Examiner rejects claim 7 because it is unclear how a sliding switch can function as a brake button. It was not the applicant's intention that a sliding switch would function as a brake button. Tape measures commonly employ a rocker arm which is approximately 1" x 1" on the housing of the tape measure. When the arm is rocked one way an underside of that side of the rocker arm presses against the coiled tape locking it. When

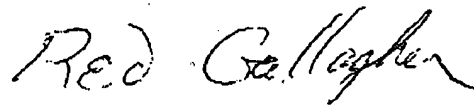
the rocker is pressed the other way, the underside previously in contact with the coiled tape is lifted and the tape is unlocked. The rocker arm looks very much like 46 on figure 1 of the drawing. It was the applicants intention that a slide switch be positioned as shown on a central portion of the rocker arm, which is the tape break. The slide switch would be no more complicated than a switch on a flashlight. If the switch were on a central portion of the rocker arm it would rotate slightly when the rocker were rocked. This small movement could be more than accommodated by electrical wires extending to the rocking switch. None the less, claim 7 has been amended so that it now claims, "the light switch comprises a slide button [centrally] positioned [on] in the vicinity of the tape brake for convenient operation."

In paragraph 11 the Examiner objects to claims 1-10 because in claim 1 "the belt hook" in the second last line should be --the tape hook--. Claim 1 has been amended so that in the second last line of the claim both occurrences of the "belt hook" are changed to --tape hook--. The Examiner also objected to claim 10 because it lacked antecedent basis with respect to claims 8 and 9 and with respect to the specification. The applicant is unsure how this is theoretically possible. Claim 8 is dependent on claim 4. Claim 5 is similarly dependent on claim 4. Claim 5 states that the light comprises a light emitting diode. It does not seem to the applicant that it adds to clarity to first state that the light comprises a light emitting diode and then to state that the light comprises a laser. It is further noted that a laser is extremely focused light. All light rays are parallel. The purpose of using a focused light, or an extremely focused light is to "illuminate the measured length on the tape so that

the exact measured length on the tape is indicated by the focused light and the problem of parallax is largely avoided" - as was stated in claim 8. In conclusion the applicant believes the claim dependency of claim 9 on claim 8, rather than on claim 5 more accurately reflects the intended purpose of claim 9. It is noted however, that if claim 9 were to depend on claim 4 then practically speaking much the same thing would be claimed.

It is respectfully submitted that claims 1-10 and 15-18, now in the application, are in form for allowance. All issues raised by the Examiner have been resolved.

As this response is two months late a late fee in the amount of \$225 is enclosed.



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